

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please AMEND claims 1, 5, 11, 13, 15, and 19 and CANCEL claims 12, 14, and 16 without prejudice or disclaimer in accordance with the following:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A driving apparatus, comprising:

a blade on which an object is mounted;

a servo-mechanism to drive the blade in a plurality of directions; and

a plurality of elastic support members, to support the blade, the elastic support members being elastically movable with respect to the blade and located outside of the servo-mechanism; wherein the plurality of elastic support members are grouped into at least three pairs of elastic support members, a member of the each pair arranged to face an other member of the pair with respect to a center of rotation of the blade, and with distances between the elastic support members in the respective pairs are being substantially equal.

2. (ORIGINAL) A driving apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the object mounted on the blade is an objective lens, and the driving apparatus is a driving apparatus for an optical pickup.

3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A driving apparatus, comprising:

a blade on which an object is mounted;

a plurality of elastic support members supporting the blade and capable of elastically moving with respect to the blade; and

a servo-mechanism driving to drive the blade in a plurality of directions;

wherein the plurality of elastic support members are divided into a first group of elastic support members symmetrically arranged at positions separated a first distance from a center of rotation of the blade and a second group of elastic support members symmetrically arranged at other positions separated an other distance from the center of rotation, and a gap between a neighboring elastic support member of the first group and an elastic support member of the second group is smaller than gaps between the elastic support members in their own group.

4. (ORIGINAL) A driving apparatus as set forth in claim 3, wherein the object

mounted on the blade is an objective lens, and the driving apparatus is a driving apparatus for an optical pickup.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A driving apparatus, comprising:
a blade on which an object to be driven is mounted;
a servo-mechanism to drive the blade in a plurality of directions;
a plurality of elastic support members, the plurality of elastic support members arranged in at least three pairs outside of the servo mechanism; and
wherein a distance from a center of rotation of the blade to each end of each of the plurality of elastic support members is substantially equal.

6. (ORIGINAL) A driving apparatus as set forth in claim 5, wherein the object mounted on the blade is an objective lens, and the driving apparatus is a driving apparatus for an optical pickup.

7. (ORIGINAL) A driving apparatus as set forth in claim 5, wherein a deformation ability of each of the plurality of elastic support members arranged in pairs is substantially equal.

8. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A driving apparatus, comprising:
a blade on which an object to be driven is mounted;
a servo-mechanism to drive the blade in a plurality of directions;
a plurality of elastic support members, the plurality of elastic support members arranged in a first group of pairs and a second group of pairs; and
wherein a distance from a center of rotation of the blade to each end of each of the elastic support members in the first group is substantially equal to a first distance, the distance from a center of rotation of the blade to each end of each of the elastic support members in the second group is substantially equal to a second distance, the first and second distances not substantially equal to each other, and the distance between ends of members in different groups of pairs is less than a distance between ends of members in different pairs of a same group.

9. (ORIGINAL) A driving apparatus as set forth in claim 8, wherein the object mounted on the blade is an objective lens, and the driving apparatus is a driving apparatus for an optical pickup.

10. (ORIGINAL) A driving apparatus as set forth in claim 8, wherein a deformation ability of each of the plurality of elastic support members arranged in pairs is substantially equal.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A driving apparatus, comprising:
a blade on which an object to be driven is mounted;
a mechanism to drive the blade in a plurality of directions; and
~~a plurality at least three pairs~~ of elastic support members with a fixed position of each of the plurality of elastic support members being substantially located on an imaginary circle having a center on an axis of rotation of the blade, the elastic support members being outside of the mechanism.

12. (CANCELLED)

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A driving apparatus, comprising:
a blade on which an object to be driven is mounted;
a mechanism to drive the blade in a plurality of directions; and
~~a plurality at least three pairs~~ of elastic support members, outside of the mechanism, each elastic support member being deformed a substantially equal amount during a movement of the blade.

14. (CANCELLED)

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A driving apparatus, comprising:
a blade on which an object to be driven is mounted;
a mechanism to drive the blade in a plurality of directions; and
~~a plurality at least three pairs~~ of elastic support members each having a substantially same amount of tensile force during a movement of the blade, the elastic support members being located outside of the servo mechanism.

16. (CANCELLED)

17. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A driving apparatus, comprising:

a blade on which an object to be driven is mounted;

a mechanism to drive the blade in a plurality of directions;

a plurality of elastic support members, the plurality of elastic support members arranged

in at least three groups of pairs;

wherein each distance from a center of rotation of the blade to an end of each of the plurality of elastic support members in a first group is substantially equal, each distance from a center of rotation of the blade to an end of each of elastic support members in the second group is substantially equal to a first distance, each distance from the center of rotation of the blade to an end of each of the elastic support members in the third group is substantially equal to a second distance different than the first distance, and a distance between ends of members in different groups of pairs is less than a distance between ends of members in different pairs in a same group.

18. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A driving apparatus, comprising:

a blade on which an object is mounted;

a servo-mechanism to drive the blade in a plurality of directions; and

a plurality of elastic support members, to support the blade, the elastic support members being elastically movable with respect to the blade and located outside of the servo-mechanism; wherein the plurality of elastic support members are grouped into at least three pairs of elastic support members, a member of the pair arranged to face an other member of the pair with respect to a center of rotation of the blade, and distances between the elastic support members in the respective pairs are substantially equal.

19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A driving apparatus, comprising:

a blade on which an object to be driven is mounted;

a servo-mechanism to drive the blade in a plurality of directions;

~~a plurality at least three pairs of elastic support members, the plurality of elastic support members arranged in at least three pairs arranged~~ outside of the servo mechanism; and

wherein a distance from a center of rotation of the blade to each end of each of the ~~plurality of elastic support members~~ is substantially equal.

20. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A driving apparatus, comprising:

a blade on which an object to be driven is mounted;
a mechanism to drive the blade in a plurality of directions; and
at least three pairs of elastic support members, outside of the mechanism, each
deformed a substantially equal amount during a movement of the blade.

21. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A driving apparatus, comprising:
a blade on which an object to be driven is mounted;
a mechanism to drive the blade in a plurality of directions; and
at least three pairs of elastic support members each having a substantially same amount
of tensile force during a movement of the blade, the elastic support members being located
outside of the servo mechanism.